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**IRON.** *adj.*  
1. Made of iron.  
In iron walls they deem'd me not secure. *Shaksp. H. VI.*  
Get me an iron crow, and bring it straight  
Unto my cell. *Shaksp. Romeo and Juliet.*  
Some are of an iron red, shining, and polite; others not  
polite, but as if powdered with iron dust. *Woodward.*  
Poll-cats and weasels do a great deal of injury to warrens:  
the way of taking them is in hutches, and iron traps. *Mortim.*  
2. Resembling iron in colour.  
A piece of stone of a dark iron grey colour, but in some  
parts of a ferruginous colour. *Woodward on Fossils.*  
Some of them are of an iron red, and very bright. *Woodw.*  
3. Harsh; severe; rigid; miserable; calamitous: as, the iron  
age, for an age of hardship and wickedness. These ideas may  
be found more or less in all the following examples.  
Three vigorous virgins, waiting still behind,  
Assist the throne of th' iron scepter'd king. *Croshaw.*  
O sad virgin, that thy power  
Might bid the foul of Orpheus sing  
Such notes as warbled to the string,  
Drew iron tears from Pluto's cheek,  
And made hell grant what love did seek. *Milton.*  
In all my iron years of wars and dangers,  
From blooming youth down to decaying age,  
My fame ne'er knew a stain of dishonour. *Rowe.*  
Jove crush the nations with an iron rod,  
And ev'ry monarch be the scourge of God. *Pope's Odyssey.*  
4. Indissoluble; unbroken.  
Rash Elpenor, in an evil hour,  
Dry'd an immeasurable bowl, and thought  
To exhale his furest by irriguous sleep,  
Imprudent: him death's iron sleep oppress. *Phillips.*  
5. Hard; impenetrable.  
I will converse with iron witted fools,  
And unrespective boys: none are for me,  
That look into me with confid'rate eyes. *Shaksp. R. III.*  
**TO IRON.** *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
1. To smooth with an iron.  
2. To shackle with irons.  
**IRONICAL.** *adj.* [ironique, Fr. from irony.] Expressing one thing  
and meaning another; speaking by contraries.  
In this fallacy may be comprised all ironical mistakes, or  
expressions receiving inverted significations. *Brown.*  
I take all your ironical civilities in a literal sense, and shall  
expect them to be literally performed. *Swift.*  
**IRONICALLY.** *adv.* [from ironical.] By the use of irony.  
Socrates was pronounced by the oracle of Delphos to be the  
wisest man of Greece, which he would turn from himself  
ironically, saying, there could be nothing in him to verify the  
oracle, except this, that he was not wise, and knew it; and  
others were not wise, and knew it not. *Bacon.*  
The dean, ironically grave, *Swift.*  
Still shunn'd the fool, and last'd the knave. *Swift.*  
**IRONMONGER.** *n. s.* [iron and monger.] A dealer in iron.  
**IRONWOOD.** *n. s.* A kind of wood extremely hard, and so pon-  
derous as to sink in water. It grows in America. *Rob. Crisp.*  
**IRONWORT.** *n. s.* [sideritis, Latin.] It is a plant with a labiate  
flower, consisting of one leaf, whose upper lip or beard is  
divided into three parts: out of the flower-cup rises the pointal,  
attended, as it were, by four embryos; which afterward turn  
to so many oblong seeds, shut up in an hulk, which before was  
the flower-cup: to these marks must be added, the flowers  
growing in whorles at the wings of the leaves, which are cut  
like a crest, and differ from the other leaves of the plant. *Mill.*  
**IRONY.** *adj.* [from iron.] Made of iron; partaking of iron.  
The force they are under is real, and that of their fate but  
imaginary: it is not strange if the irony chains have more  
solidity than the contemplative. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*  
Some springs of Hungary, highly impregnated with vitri-  
olick salts, dissolve the body of one metal, suppose iron, put  
into the spring; and deposite, in lieu of the iron particles car-  
ried off, coppery particles. *Woodward on Fossils.*  
**IRONY.** *n. s.* [ironie, Fr. lewisia.] A mode of speech in  
which the meaning is contrary to the words: as, *Baling broke*  
*was a holy man.*  
So grave a body, upon so solemn an occasion, should not  
deal in irony, or explain their meaning by contraries. *Swift.*  
**IRRADIANCE.** *n. s.* [irradiance, French; irradiatio, Latin.]  
**IRRADIANCE.** *n. s.* [irradiance, French; irradiatio, Latin.]  
1. Emission of rays or beams of light upon any object.  
The principal affection is its translucency; the irradiancy  
and sparkling, found in many gems, is not discoverable in  
this. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
2. Beams of light emitted.  
Love not the heavenly spirits? Or do they mix  
Irradiance! virtual, or immediate touch? *Mit. Par. Leg.*  
**TO IRRADIATE.** *v. a.* [irradiare, Latin.]  
1. To adorn with light emitted upon it; to brighten.  
When he thus perceives that these opacous bodies do not  
hinder the eye from judging light to have an equal plenary  
diffusion through the whole place it irradiates, he can have no

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difficulty to allow air, that is diaphanous, to be every where  
mingled with light. *Digby on Bodies.*  
It is not a converting but a crowning grace; such an one  
as irradiates and puts a circle of glory about the head of him  
upon whom it descends. *South.*  
2. To enlighten intellectually; to illumine; to illuminate.  
Celestial light  
Shine inward, and the mind through all her powers  
Irradiate; there plant eyes: all mist from thence  
Purge and disperse. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iii.*  
3. To animate by heat or light.  
Ethereal or solar heat must digest, influence, irradiate, and  
put those more simple parts of matter into motion. *Hale.*  
4. To decorate with shining ornaments.  
No weeping orphan saw his father's store  
Our shrines irradiate, or imblaze the floor. *Pope.*  
**IRRADIATION.** *n. s.* [irradiation, Fr. from irradiare.]  
1. The act of emitting beams of light.  
If light were a body it should drive away the air, which is  
likewise a body, wherever it is admitted; for within the whole  
sphere of the irradiation of it, there is no point but light is  
found. *Digby on Bodies.*  
The generation of bodies is not effected by irradiation, or  
answerably unto the propagation of light; but herein a trans-  
mission is made materially from some parts, and ideally from  
every one. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
2. Illumination; intellectual light.  
The means of derivation and immediate union of these in-  
telligible objects to the understanding, are sometimes divine  
and supernatural, as by immediate irradiation or revelation.  
*Hale's Origin of Mankind.*  
**IRRATIONAL.** *adj.* [irrationalis, Latin.]  
1. Void of reason; void of understanding; without the dis-  
cursive faculty.  
Thus began  
Outrage from lifeless things; but discord first,  
Daughter of sin, among th' irrational  
Death introduc'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
He hath eat'n, and lives,  
And knows, and speaks, and reasons and discerns;  
Irrational! till then. *Mit. Paradise Lost, b. ix.*  
2. Absurd; contrary to reason.  
Since the brain is only a part transmittent, and that humours  
oft are precipitated to the lungs before they arrive to the brain,  
no kind of benefit can be effected from so irrational an appli-  
cation. *Harvey on Conjunction.*  
I shall quietly submit, not wishing so irrational a thing as  
that every body should be deceived. *Pope.*  
**IRRATIONALITY.** *n. s.* [from irrational.] Want of reason.  
**IRRATIONALLY.** *adv.* [from irrational.] Without reason;  
absurdly.  
**IRRECLAIMABLE.** *adj.* [in and reclaimable.] Not to be re-  
claimed; not to be changed to the better.  
As for obstinate, irreclaimable, professed enemies, we must  
expect their calumnies will continue. *Addison's Freeholder.*  
**IRRECONCILABLE.** *adj.* [irreconcilable, Fr. in and reconcilable.]  
1. Not to be reconciled; not to be appeased.  
Wage eternal war,  
Irreconcilable to our grand foe. *Milton.*  
A weak unequal faction may animate a government; but  
when it grows equal in strength, and irreconcilable by animos-  
ity, it cannot end without some crisis. *Temple.*  
There are no factions, though irreconcilable to one another,  
that are not united in their affection to you. *Dryden.*  
2. Not to be made consistent. It has with or to.  
As she was strictly virtuous herself, so she always put the  
best construction upon the words and actions of her neigh-  
bours, except where they were irreconcilable to the rules of  
honesty and decency. *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull.*  
Since the sense I oppose is attended with such gross irrecon-  
cilable absurdities, I presume I need not offer any thing farther  
in support of the one, or in disproof of the other. *Rogers.*  
This essential power of gravitation or attraction is irrecon-  
cilable with the atheist's own doctrine of a chaos. *Beattie.*  
All that can be transmitted from the stars is wholly unrec-  
countable, and irreconcilable to any system of science. *Bentley.*  
**IRRECONCILABLENESS.** *n. s.* [from irreconcilable.] Impossi-  
bility to be reconciled.  
**IRRECONCILABLY.** *adv.* [from irreconcilable.] In a manner  
not admitting reconciliation.  
**IRRECONCILED.** *adj.* [in and reconciled.] Not atoned.  
A servant dies in many irreconciled iniquities. *Shaksp. H. V.*  
**IRRECOVERABLE.** *adj.* [in and recoverable.]  
1. Not to be regained; not to be refitted or repaired.  
Time, in a natural sense, is irrecoverable: the moment just  
fled by us, it is impossible to recall. *Rogers.*  
2. Not to be remedied.  
The irrecoverable loss of so many livings of principal  
value.  
It concerns every man, that would not trifle away his soul,  
and fool himself into irrecoverable misery, with the greatest  
seriousness to enquire. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
**IRRECOVERABLY.**

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**IRRECOVERABLY.** *adv.* [from irrecoverable.] Beyond reco-  
very; past repair.  
O dark, dark, dark amid' the blaze of noon;  
Irrecoverably dark, total eclipse,  
Without all hope of day. *Milton's Agonistes.*  
The credit of the Exchequer is irrecoverably lost by the last  
breach with the bankers. *Temple.*  
**IRREDUCIBLE.** *adj.* [in and reducible.] Not to be brought or  
reduced.  
These observations seem to argue the corpuscles of air to  
be irreducible into water. *Boyle.*  
**IRREFRAGABILITY.** *n. s.* [from irrefragable.] Strength of  
argument not to be refuted.  
**IRREFRAGABLE.** *adj.* [irrefragabilis, school Latin; irre-  
fragable, Fr.] Not to be confuted; superior to argumental  
opposition.  
Strong and irrefragable the evidences of Christianity must  
be: they who refuted them would resist every thing. *Atterbury.*  
The danger of introducing unexperienced men was urged  
as an irrefragable reason for working by flow degrees. *Swift.*  
**IRREFRAGABLY.** *adv.* [from irrefragable.] With force above  
confutation.  
That they denied a future state is evident from St. Paul's  
reasonings, which are of no force but only on that supposition,  
as Origen largely and irrefragably proves. *Atterbury.*  
**IRREFUTABLE.** *adj.* [irrefutabilis, Latin.] Not to be over-  
thrown by argument.  
**IRREGULAR.** *adj.* [irregulier, Fr. irregularis, Latin.]  
1. Deviating from rule, custom, or nature.  
The am'rous youth  
Obtain'd of Venus his desire,  
How'er irregular his fire.  
2. Immethodical; not confined to any certain rule or order.  
This motion seems excentric and irregular, yet not well  
to be refuted or quieted. *King Charles.*  
Regular  
Then most, when most irregular they seem. *Milton.*  
The numbers of pindarics are wild and irregular, and  
sometimes seem harsh and uncouth. *Cowley.*  
3. Not being according to the laws of virtue. A soft word for  
virtuous.  
**IRREGULARITY.** *n. s.* [irregularitas, Fr. from irregular.]  
1. Deviation from rule.  
2. Neglect of method and order.  
This irregularity of its hourly and tumultuous motion might  
afford a beginning unto the common opinion. *Brown.*  
As these vast heaps of mountains are thrown together with  
so much irregularity and confusion, they form a great variety  
of hollow bottoms. *Addison on Italy.*  
3. Inordinate practice.  
Religion is somewhat less in danger of corruption, while  
the sinner acknowledges the obligations of his duty, and is  
ashamed of his irregularities. *Rogers's Sermons.*  
**IRREGULARLY.** *adv.* [from irregular.] Without observation  
of rule or method.  
Phaeton,  
By the wild courses of his fancy drawn,  
From East to West irregularly hurl'd,  
First set on fire himself, and then the world. *Dryden jun.*  
Your's is a foul irregularly great,  
Which wanting temper, yet abounds with heat. *Dryden.*  
It may give some light to those whose concern for their lit-  
tle ones makes them so irregularly bold as to consult their own  
reason, in the education of their children, rather than to rely  
upon old custom. *Locke.*  
**TO IRREGULATE.** *v. a.* [from in and regula, Latin.] To  
make irregular; to disorder.  
Its fluctuations are but motions subservient, which winds,  
shelves, and every interjacency irregularates. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*  
**IRRELATIVE.** *adj.* [in and relativity, Latin.] Having no re-  
ference to any thing; single; unconnected.  
Separated by the voice of God, things in their species came  
out in uncommunicated varieties, and irrelative femininities.  
*Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
**IRRELIGION.** *n. s.* [irreligion, Fr. in and religion.] Contempt  
of religion; impiety.  
The weapons with which I combat irreligion are already  
consecrated. *Dryden.*  
We behold every instance of prophaneness and irreligion,  
not only committed, but defended and gloried in. *Rogers.*  
**IRRELIGIOUS.** *adj.* [irreligioux, Fr. in and religious.]  
1. Contemning religion; impious.  
The illue of an irreligious Moor. *Shaksp. Tit. Andron.*  
Whoever sees these irreligious men,  
With burthen of a sickness weak and faint,  
But hears them talking of religion then,  
And vowing of their souls to ev'ry saint,  
Shame and reproach is generally the portion of the impious  
and irreligious. *South's Sermons.*  
2. Contrary to religion.  
Wherein that Scripture standeth not the church of God in  
any stead, or serveth nothing at all to direct, but may be let

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pals as needfuls to be consulted with, we judge it profane, im-  
pious, and irreligious to think. *H. cher.*  
Might not the queen's domesticks be obliged to avoid swear-  
ing, and irreligious profane discourse? *Swift.*  
**IRRELIGIOUSLY.** *adv.* [from irreligioux.] With impiety;  
with irreligion.  
**IRREMEABLE.** *adj.* [irremeabilis, Latin.] Admitting no re-  
turn.  
The keeper charm'd, the chief without delay  
Pals'd on, and took th' irremovable way. *Dryden.*  
**IRREMEADIABLE.** *adj.* [irremediable, Fr. in and remediable.]  
Admitting no cure; not to be remedied.  
They content themselves with that which was the irremediable  
error of former times, or the necessity of the present hath cast  
upon them. *Hooker.*  
A steady hand, in governing of military affairs, is more  
requisite than in times of peace, because an error committed  
in war may prove irremediable. *Bacon.*  
Whatever he consults you about, unless it lead to some fatal  
and irremediable mischief, be sure you advise only as a  
friend. *Locke.*  
**IRREMEADIABLY.** *adv.* [from irremediable.] Without cure.  
It happens to us irremediably and inevitably, that we may  
perceive these accidents are not the fruits of our labour, but  
gifts of God. *Taylor's Worthy Communicant.*  
**IRREMISSIBLE.** *adj.* [in and remitto, Lat. irremissibile, French.]  
Not to be pardoned.  
**IRREMISSIBLENESS.** *n. s.* [from irremissibile.] The quality of  
being not to be pardoned.  
Thence arises the aggravation and irremissibility of the  
sin. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*  
**IRREMOVABLE.** *adj.* [in and remove.] Not to be moved;  
not to be changed.  
He's irremovable, *Shaksp. Winter's Tale.*  
Resolv'd for flight. *Shaksp. Winter's Tale.*  
**IRRENOUWED.** *adj.* [in and renouen.] Void of honour.  
For all he did was to deceive good knights,  
And draw them from pursuit of praise and fame  
To sluggish sloth and sensual delights,  
And end their days with irrenowned shame. *Fairy Queen.*  
**IRREPARABLE.** *adj.* [irreparabilis, Lat. irreparable, Fr.] Not  
to be recovered; not to be repaired.  
Irreparable is the loss, and patience says it is not past her  
cure. *Shaksp. Tempest.*  
Toil'd with loss irreparable. *Milton.*  
It is an irreparable injustice we are guilty of, when we are  
prejudiced by the looks of those whom we do not know. *Addison.*  
The story of Deucalion and Pyrrha teaches, that piety and  
innocence cannot miss of the divine protection, and that the  
only loss irreparable is that of our probity. *Garth.*  
**IRREPARABLY.** *adv.* [from irreparable.] Without recovery;  
without amends.  
Such adventures befall artists irreparably. *Boyle.*  
The cutting off that time industry and gifts, whereby she would  
be nourished, were irreparably injurious to her. *Dec. of Piety.*  
**IRREPLEVABLE.** *adj.* [in and replevy.] Not to be redeemed.  
A law term.  
**IRREPREHENSIBLE.** *adj.* [irreprehensibilis, Fr. irreprehensibilis,  
Latin.] Exempt from blame.  
**IRREPREHENSIBLY.** *adv.* [from irreprehensibilis.] Without blame.  
**IRREPRESENTABLE.** *adj.* [in and represent.] Not to be figured  
by any representation.  
God's irrepresentable nature doth hold against making images  
of God. *Stillfleet.*  
**IRREPROACHABLE.** *adj.* [in and reproachable.] Free from  
blame; free from reproach.  
He was a serious sincere Christian, of an innocent, irre-  
proachable, nay, exemplary life. *Atterbury.*  
Their prayer may be, that they may raise up and breed as  
irreproachable a young family as their parents have done. *Pope.*  
**IRREPROACHABLY.** *adv.* [from irreproachable.] Without  
blame; without reproach.  
**IRREPROVEABLE.** *adj.* [in and reproveable.] Not to be blamed;  
irreproachable.  
**IRRESISTIBILITY.** *n. s.* [from irresistibile.] Power or force  
above opposition.  
The doctrine of irresistibility of grace, in working whatso-  
ever it works, if it be acknowledged, there is nothing to be  
affixed to gratitude. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*  
**IRRESISTIBLE.** *adj.* [irresistibilis, Fr. in and resistibile.] Supe-  
rior to opposition.  
Fear doth grow from an apprehension of the Deity, inducd  
with irresistibile power to hurt; and is of all affections, anger  
excepted, the unaptest to admit conference with reason. *Hook.*  
In mighty quadrate join'd  
Of union irresistibile. *Milton.*  
Fear of God is inward acknowledgment of an holy just  
Being, armed with almighty and irresistibile power. *Tillotson.*  
There can be no difference in the subjects, where the appli-  
cation is almighty and irresistibile, as in creation. *Rogers.*  
Won by the charm  
Of goodness irresistibile, the blith'd content. *Thomson.*  
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**IRRESISTIBLY.**